

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 were pending in the present application. Claims 6, and 12-22 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 9 have been amended. Claims 23-30 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-11, and 23-30 are now pending in the application. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully submits the term "combiner" is a general term well suited for a unit that creates a generate and propagate bit pair using a combinatorial logic arrangement. Applicant does not believe the term to be in gross conflict with terms generally used in the art. Applicant notes that neither art reference cited by the Examiner uses the term "combiner" to describe the adder/subtractor. Accordingly, applicant requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claims 12-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has cancelled claims 12-22 and believes the rejection to now be moot.

Claims 1-5, 10-16, and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's Fig. 1. Applicant has amended claim 1 and believes the rejection to now be moot.

Claims 1-5, 10-16, and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Persoon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,117,386) (hereinafter "Persoon") in view of Kumar et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,944,777) (hereinafter "Kumar"). Although Applicant traverses at least portions of this rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to expedite allowance.

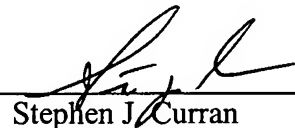
Claims 6-9 and 17-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations in the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitation that was previously recited in dependent claim 6. In addition, Applicant has rewritten claims 7, 8, and 9 into independent form. Applicant has further added new claims 23-30, which include the limitations of original claims 2-5.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-64600/SJC.

Respectfully submitted,



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